The Negro Farmer and Messenger

Published Bi-Weekly in the Interest of the Home, Farm and Garden; especially devoted to the Interest of Negro Land Owners and Tenant Farmers and Those Who Employ Negro Labor. The Only Negro Farm Newspaper in the World to be Circulated Among 2 000,000 Black Farmers.

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Poultry Raising-A Great Business for the Southern Farmer

By G. D. White, in charge of the Poultry Yard, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

Poultry work in the South, like many other industries, has been very much neglected. The hen in past years has not been given the credit she is due. Her importance has not been realized. If we compare the valuation of the poultry products, we will see that in the United States it equals one half that of the South's greatest crop. The hen does not realize when she creeps into a clean nest hidden in some quiet place that she is giving a farmer his breakfast for the following morning, or a basket of clean, fresh eggs to carry to town as an exchange for the following week's groceries.

Naturally, the hen obeys the laws of nature when the cold winter days have passed and bright, warm days of spring awaken the worms, bugs, and the seed send forth their tender shoots. These are gathered in the day's toil of the hen. They give her large quantities of material food which is so essential for egg production.

Every farm should have fifty hens. They eat the waste grains, worms, and bugs, and in fact save much food which would otherwise go to waste.

In the stages of plant and animal life, the ones that are the most productive are the ones that have been selected for many years. This rule holds true with the hen. The ones that are the most profitable are the ones that have been most carefully selected. Selection is made in two ways. The individual is watched for her good qualities and kept separated from the other part of the flock. Her offspring is watched in the same manner until a fine egg and meat chicken has been produced. There are three types of chickens: the egg or Mediterranean, meat or Asiatic and general purpose or American. The egg type produces a large number of eggs at the expense of a small body. The meat type is the opposite, with a large body and a few eggs. The general purpose type, like the name suggests, fits in between the two other types, giving a fairly large meat bird, yet a very good layer. In some of the future issues I will discuss more fully each type, and some of the most important breeds.

The North and West have already realized the profits in poultry raising. The South must do the same, because her advantages are as great, if not greater. Each farm could accommodate fifty hens, and when the farmer learns to care for his flock properly, more can be added to this number.

This picture is a beautiful illustration of thrift and forethought. No farm is complete without its poultry. Nothing more surely safe guards the family against the distructive influences of the boll weevil.

Are we to wait until our neighbor keeps fifty barred Plymouth Rock hens and they make as much profit as a bale and a half of cotton? No! We will start now to develop a flock of hens that will give us a good income each year.

Rural Schoolhouse Building

By Booker T. Washington, Jr.

There is no reason why the people living in the rural districts should not have good schoolhouses, just the same as are to be found in the towns and cities. Through the generosity of Mr. Julius Rosenwald of Chicago and also the State Department of Education of Alabama, it is possible for the colored people to erect good schoolhouses if they desire to do so. And it is very commendable the way the patrons of the several communities who are putting forth the effort to meet the requirements of these Funds, are succeeding in spite of the hard times. I would like to mention more places that are raising money, buying the necessary two acres of land and are now erecting modern school structures.

It was my privilege on June 25th to conduct a rally at Brundidge, Alabama (Pike County), on which occasion the sum of $113 in cash was raised. Prof. Hudson is the principal of the Brundidge colored school and a very capable man. Messrs. Jett and Belsor are members of the Trustee Board and are very much interested in the school affairs. The white citizens contributed liberally toward the work and are anxious to see a good school building for colored children located in their community.

Again on July 4th, I conducted a rally which was held in the Court House at Wedowee, Alabama (Randolph County), and the people raised $300 in cash. Mr. J. B. McPherson, county farm demonstration agent, is to be commended for his energetic movement in educational uplift of his race.

Recently, I have conducted rallies in Chambers, Mobile and Baldwin counties, and was very much pleased to note the large sums of money which were raised for the purpose of building better schoolhouses.

I hope that the readers of the Negro Farmer and Messenger will get in touch with the authorities at Tuskegee and secure funds to help them erect more comfortable school buildings for their children provided you have not them already. Now is the time to build, while you can take advantage of the Rosenwald and State Funds.

Schools to Aid Pike's Negro Farmers

By Jno. C. Thomas, Troy, Alabama, in the Troy Messenger.

An extension school of agriculture and home economics for Negro farmers, their wives and children, was held in Macedonia Church, Ensley, Alabama, July 24-25th. These schools are being conducted under the auspices of the Tuskegee Institute, by T. M. Campbell, district agent for the betterment of Negro farmers of the State of Alabama. The schools are being conducted in East Alabama counties by local agent M. B. Ivy, of Bullock County, and Miss N. Juanita Coleman, State Home Economic teacher at Tuskegee Institute.

By 11:00 o'clock a. m., although raining and bad roads, the people were there in round numbers to get instruction on better farming, housekeeping, cooking, etc.

Agent M. B. Ivy proceeded at once to gather corn, pea vines, peanuts, velvet bean vines and different kinds of soils for demonstrations. The table was piled up with dirt, while the railings were literally covered with vines, cotton and corn. Agent Ivy pulled off his coat, hung it on the wall, rolled up his sleeves and began to teach how to enrich and mix the soil with leaves and muck and legumes. He showed very conclusively how easily the soils could be enriched and good crops made without the use of so much commercial fertilizer. He proved to his hearers that it was just as necessary for Negroes to make good crops and stay out of debt as it was for the white man.

He said: "If the white man can make and save enough on the farm to feed his family and then have enough to spare to loan the Negro farmer some, then the Negro farmer ought to make and save enough to feed himself, to say the least." After talking and demonstrating for more than an hour seemingly to the satisfaction of all, Miss N. Juanita Coleman was introduced by Rev. A. C. Cole to more than 500 farmers.

Miss Coleman talked on the "Health of the Family." Among the many things she said: "We must improve our health as a race and that every fourth Negro baby dies before it is one year old.

"We must learn how to keep the fly away from our tables, mosquitoes from our rooms and typhoid from our beds. We, as a race, kiss too much and in that way spread diseases and the habit should be discontinued." She urged the Negro farmers to help their wives and daughters in making home life happy life. "Screen your home," she said; "it is cheaper than doctors' bills, and coffins. Fresh air is nature's great tonic; throw open your doors and windows, and take it. He who closes his doors and windows winks to death to come on."

She urged a full co-operation of the husband and wife in economy in their earnings, in the kitchen and about the home, and that well fed cattle and chickens meant good food and good food meant long life. Chair bottoms and picture frames made of shucks and pastboard, old rags made into beautiful rugs, spreads embossed with needle work, were some of the lessons demonstrated to the delight of all.

(To Be Continued.)

HOW AN OLD COLORED WOMAN MEETS THE HARD TIMES

Mrs. Lutishia Brown of Capps, Alabama, is 66 years old and is the mother of 13 children. She cannot read nor write, but she subscribed for the Negro Farmer and Messenger for the children to read and keeps posted with the farm topics of the day. She is a live wire in the home; she believes in working and saving.

She has 130 jars of canned fruit in her home; has a yard full of chickens; keeps an evergreen garden, and has a nice orchard. Mr. Jno. Brown, her husband, owns 208 acres of land, paid for.

(Contributed.)

PROF. RAKESTRAW LECTURES

Professor Rakestraw, one of the leading instructors of the famous Tuskegee Institute for Negroes made a splendid and instructive lecture at the court house in Abbeville on last Friday, at 10:30 o'clock in the morning.

The Professor spoke to a large audience composed of representative farmers of both the white and colored race. His talk was full of valuable information and counsel to the farmer of whatever color he may be. The lecture was thoroughly enjoyed by each of his hearers.

Professor Rakestraw gave advice to his people, that they would do well to heed. One could see that he is deeply interested in the work of promoting the welfare of his race, as he realizes the grim necessity of accomplishing such a result. He is a pupil of the late Booker T. Washington, and has similar views on the up-building of the Negroes as was held by his famous teacher, who is the greatest man the Negro race has ever produced. Tuskegee Institute should be proud of having Professor Rakestraw as one of its educational force.—Abbeville News.

SWEET POTATOES PLANTED LATE

In line with the recent recommendation made by the Alabama Extension Service for the setting out of sweet potato vines on the sandier part of overflowed land, the following experiment by Prof. Duggar is of interest.

Sweet potato vine cuttings were set out at various dates on the farm of the Alabama Experiment Station at Auburn by Professor J. C. C. Price, of the Horticultural Department. Among these dates were two which show the results that may be expected from extremely late setting of vines. Vines transplanted July 15 produced 184 bushels of sweet potatoes per acre. Vines of the same variety transplanted on August 10 yielded 53 bushels per acre, in spite of a defective stand. These are average results for two years.

The variety used was Triumph, an early and productive kind. In the same series of experiments the results were practically the same with the Nancy Hall variety. Doubtless similar results could be expected with the Porto Rico.

It is apparent from the above that while the setting of vines as late as August 10th, results in a yield that more than pays expenses, yet the yield may be greatly increased by setting the vines a week or two, or even a few days, earlier.

These experiments were made on poor, sandy, upland soil, which, however, was well fertilized, namely, with 1,000 pounds per acre of a complete fertilizer. They give some ground for encouragement in the late planting of sweet potatoes, at least for home use, and by those who have lost the corn that would have fed them next winter.

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THE HOME'S GREATEST ORNAMENT

The prettiest thing in the home is the wife. She is more beautiful than all the flowers, vases, pillows and carpets there are.

When she is rested she smiles, and a smile is beautiful; therefore, she needs what human and mechanical help is possible. When she is worried she has wrinkles, which are not beautiful; therefore, she should be sheltered from annoyances. When she is well-dressed she is assured and serene and shows it; when we are well-groomed she is proud of us and holds up her head. When she is well-informed she is interesting and interested; therefore books and magazines are an instrument.

This is wisdom. You want to know how I learned it? I gained the knowledge through being a widower. If you have forgotten how beautiful your wife is and how unattractive your home would be without her, just take a thought yourself and surprise her with a kiss when you go in from the field to dinner.—A Man, in the Progressive Farmer.

Some Signs of a Poor Farmer

Only plants cotton.

Never looks very far ahead.

Never saves his planting seed, but depends on borrowing if he can, and buying if he is compelled.

Keeps poor stock.

Has a lot of no account dogs on his place.

Finds plenyt of time to attend to everybody's business except his own.

Can't be taught anything.

He raises a poor article and can't sell it.

Works just enough in his crop to fool the merchants and gets fooled.

Tries to dodge the man he owes and gets into trouble.

Fails to house every bit of his crop.

Too lazy to cut the grass and cure it for his horses, mules, cows and sheep.

Will not attend any meeting to discuss farm topics. In short, has no get-up-and-get abount him.

WHAT FARMERS SHOULD DO

Keep a level head and use it.

Sow oats this fall. You cannot sow too much.

Have a good fall and winter garden.

Prepare to live at home by having good gardens.

Study! Learn more about your farming business.

Are you getting ready for the fall fair? Remember the date.

We earnestly hope that the farmers will arrange to put their children in school the first day school opens and keep them there until it closes. It pays.

From experience, we have learned that there is more in saving than in making. Learn to save and soon you will have saved enough to help you make.

C. J. CALLOWAY,
Director, Extension Department, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

A SUCCESSFUL FARMER

Baked sweet potatoes may seem a luxury to most folks this time of year unless it is of a very early variety, but this is not so in the case of Mr. Ammons Echols, a Macon County farmer about eight miles from Tuskegee Institute who is eating and feeding to his hogs an abundance of potatoes from last year's crop, and will have them until he harvests this year's crop. They show no signs of sprouting and are large and excellent in flavor.

Mr. Echols is quite a successful farmer. He owns about 468 acres of land and operates a 5-horse farm. He has plenty of chickens, hogs and a fine lot of stock. In speaking of his success to one of the Extension workers, he said, "I haven't bought a peck of feed for my stock in 30 odd years and very little for my folks; flour, sugar and coffee are nearly all we buy." He is certainly helping "Alabama feed herself."

LILLIAN CUNNINGHAM,
Jean's Fund Supervisor, Macon County, Alabama.

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For further information write to Clinton J. Calloway, Manager, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama; or
A. A. Chandler, Baldwin Farms, Route 1, Milstead, Alabama.

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VERNON W. BARNETT----*Editor and Business Mgr.*

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1916

Stick to Your Job

No trade, no profession is without its handicaps, its upheavals, its disappointments. It is only as we meet and conquer difficulties and become masters of surrounding circumstances, do we gather strength and make substantial progress. He is indeed very fortunate who begins any business thoroughly conscious of the two-fold nature of things—who starts out prepared for the tough side as well as the easy side. This applies to the farmer no less than to men of other professions.

Men Leaving the Farm

One of the saddest pictures I've seen recently occurred at Montgomery, Alabama, a few days ago, where no less than 200 colored men from the farm were waiting for some train to take them to another State to do public work. As I looked upon them my heart was saddened with the thought that these young men, strong, hale and hearty, totally ignorant of the vast possibilities of agricultural life, had been lured to other sections and conditions, in the hope of great personal gain, only to find themselves finally entangled in the great web of disappointment, misery and crime. They had not thought, had not reasoned, had not investigated, but simply accepted a stranger's message and like a greedy herd of cattle, imagined the grass on yonder hillside sweeter and taller than where they were. I longed for an opportunity to say to those young men, "You are farmers; stick to your job. Yours is the very bed-rock upon which civilization rests. It is true that the rains have been heavy and steady and have threatened to destroy almost your entire crop, but you are left and your land is left—the agricultural possibilities are left. Just nerve up and "find your dollar where you lost it." No need to look for it in the other man's field. The grand old motto, "Alabama must feed herself," is without meaning unless the farmer sticks to his job. If the farm fails, the world is hungry — and no hungry man is capable of doing business. We may yet push the potato crop, the pea farm, the hay crop, the poultry, and the pigs. Remember that men, real men don't run when new and difficult problems present themselves, but gather fresh courage and start again. Suceed in spite of difficulties.

Love Your Job

We get out of anything as much as we put into it and no more. He who does not love his work may reasonably expect failure. The man who loves his farm always strives to make it the best. He does not depend on the one crop system, but knows that only through diversification can he expect pleasure and profit.

Use the Opportunity That You Have

Arouse ye! and "Behold what is in thy hand." Let's keep these farmer boys away from the contaminating influences of the large cities and have them know that there is "a fortune in the garden." We do this by putting brains as well as physical energy into the farm. Cultivate just what we can properly care for and give the children an individual patch or garden.

A Man Who Is Sticking to His Job

I had the pleasure of an interview with Mr. Enos Jones, one of the wealthiest colored men of Uniontown, Alabama, a few days ago. He said that he owes his success to the fact that he did not change his job. He found out what he was best fitted for and although made a complete failure in his first two attempts did not give up nor imagine himself called to preach, but nerved up, made a third attempt at the same thing — farming. Today, this colored man — this man who didn't allow hard places and "tight times" to run him from his job, is rated at between 50 and $75,000.

VEETABLES TO PLANT AFTER RECENT FLOODS

(Farmers' Leaflet No. 13; Extension Service, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn.)
By P. O. Davis, Field Agent in Horticulture and Ernest Walker, Horticulturist

Recent destruction of crops on lowlands in parts of Alabama and neighboring States has necessitated the planting of various farm, vegetable and truck crops for fall and winter use. Supplies for individual needs are first, but there will doubtless be opportunity for marketing any surplus. For the most satisfactory results, act promptly.

At present prices, Irish potatoes are a promising truck crop for this fall. The recent short spring crop caused the price to go high and the outlook for a fall crop is good if the grower is so located that he can successfully market them. At least Irish potatoes should be grown for home use to help relieve the present food shortage. In the Southern part of Alabama plant up to September 1, but preferably by the 15th of August. The Early Triumph variety has met with most favor in this section. Either cold storage or new potatoes, the latter sprouted in advance, may be planted. To sprout potatoes, place them on moist ground in a shaded place and cover with wet gummy sacks or straw and leave them for a week or ten days. Plant preferably uncut, small potatoes. Cut potatoes are more liable to rot.

Sweet potatoes may be grown still. Use slips, or preferably cuttings of vines. Plant as late as August 15. Nancy Hall, Porto Rico, and Triumph are good varieties. Sweet potatoes, rutabagas and carrots may be stored and kept throughout the winter. Write for detailed instructions.

Under normal conditions feed for live stock can be more economically produced from corn and other crops than from root crops, but under the present critical conditions, turnips and other root crops for stock feed as well as for table use may be of special value. Sow the early varieties of turnips in July or August, the late varieties during August, and the salad varieties up to September the 15th. Early White Dutch, Eearly Red or Purple Top, and Long White Cow Horn are recommended. Norfolk Globe and White Sweet German are stock varieties, while Dixie and Seven Top are salad varieties.

If planted during the early part of August, rutabagas and carrots should produce a profitable yield. Varieties of rutabagas recommended are Yellow Purple Top and Large White or Russian. Among varieties of carrots for table use are Early Scarlet Horn and Danver's Half Long Horn, and for stock White or Yellow Belgian and Improved Long Orange.

Snap beans may be planted until the middle of August. Bush beans only should be planted at this season. Many varieties, except the Navy, will do well, but Burpee's Stringless Green Pod and Extra Early Red Valentine are good.

Plant garden peas preferably in the early part of August, but in case this is not possible, later plantings may be made. Among good varieties are Nott's Excelsior, Eclipse, Gradus or Prosperity and Thomas Laxton. The first two are of dwarf habit, the others are taller and need support.

Table beets and winter radishes for fall use should be sown during July or the first part of August. Early varieties of radishes may be sown up to October. Sow fall lettuce in August and transplant when ready. It needs rich, moist soil. Grown in the open it stands light freezes. Mustard sown as late as October comes in well and can be easily grown.

Onion sets may be put out from early fall to late winter, but September is the best time to plant for winter use. Onion seed should be sown in beds in August or September, and when the plants reach the size of a goose quill they should be transplanted, which increases the yield and sometimes doubles it. Prize Taker, Extra Early White Pearl, and the Bermuda varieties are recommended.

There is yet time to grow tomatoes from large cuttings taken from healthy plants and firmly set in well prepared soil. It is too late to grow plants from seed. Prosperity and June Pink are desirable for quick maturity. Consult the descriptive catalogues of seedsmen, which may be had on application; also bulletins 187 on Cabbage and 183 on Irish potatoes, both issued by Alabama Experiment Station, Auburn.

The above mentioned vegetables thrive best on a clean, well prepared, fertile soil. Use only well-rotted manures. Nitrate of soda acts quickly; dried blood and tankagee also supply nitrogen. Ground lime, Thomas slag or bone meal, mixed in the soil are desirable for beans, peas and other legumes.

Be careful to get only fresh "good seed." Secure seed at once so that no time will be lost after the ground becomes dry enough to plant. They are obtainable from all reputable seedsmen, of which three are reliable firms in Birmingham, Montgomery, Mobile, Atlanta, and Augusta, Georgia; New Orleans, Louisiana; Richmond, Virginia, and elsewhere. On application the writers will be glad to furnish lists of Southern and other seedsmen.

For taking care of the surplus beans, tomatoes and fruits, a moderate-priced home canner will pay its cost many times over, and insure supplies long after the growing season

is past. For information write the Horticultural Department or your Demonstration Agent.

PERSONALS

Mrs. W. M. Rakestraw and two boys, who have been visiting relatives in Knoxville, Tennessee, for the last two months, returned Thursday, August 3rd.

Mrs. Alley Lenard, member of the Local Conference at Newville, Henry County, Alabama, had a nice exhibit of canned fruits, vegetables, okra, beans, corn, etc. She reported that she had been able to collect from the sale of vegetables and chickens and eggs to date, July 21, 57 dollars. She leads Henry County in this respect. Women, this is a good way to help your husbands bear the burden in the heat of the day. The leading white men who attended the meeting in the court house spoke highly of her.

A BARBECUE GIVEN BY THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

The farmers of Macon County spent a very pleasant day in the Agricultural Park, on Tuesday, August 1st, where a barbecue was given by the Agricultural Department.

Mr. C. W. Greene, Farm Demonstrator for the County, was in charge of the meeting and gave a very interesting talk on the value of saving potato vines from one year's crop so as to get an early start the next year. The Institute band was present and rendered very beautiful music throughout the meeting.

Mr. Bryant, one of Macon County's successful farmers, gave a short talk on his success as a farmer. Mr. Bryant is a great lover of tomatoes and has made quite a success growing them. He said that from one and a half acres of land he gathers on the average of twelve bushels of tomatoes a week; he uses his surplus tomatoes to feed fourteen head of hogs.

Another successful farmer, and one who is also interested in the tomato, is Mr. Pace. Next Mr. Whitehead spoke of his success with milk and butter. He began with a few calves and has now sixteen cows. Mr. J. P. Philpott told something of his success as a gardener. He has plenty cabbage, beans and peas, and had on exhibition some very fine melons and cane syrup. Mr. Henry Baker spoke on how to cultivate corn; he said that the farmers made a great mistake by trying to cultivate too much poor land. Mr. Baker has made quite a success at growing corn. Mr. W. S. Joseph gave a helpful talk on how to rid the cotton of the boll weevil. He advised the farmers to pick up the squares that fall and burn them. Mr. T. N. Cowan gave an execellent talk on tomato cultivation. He said that the rows should be six feet apart, and the plant must be well cultivated if a good yield is expected. Dinner, consisting of barbecued pork, mutton and beef was served by members of the Agricultural Department. After dinner everyone was served to watermelon.

Dinner being over, Mr. Logan was asked to say a word. He advised the farmers to raise cotton in spite of the boll weevil, can their fruits and vegetables and work the whole year instead of five or six months. Mr. E. Z. Phillips spoke on diversification. He said that to be a successful farmer, one must begin thinking in advance. Mrs. Bessick spoke of her success at dairying. She said she started by selling whole milk in the

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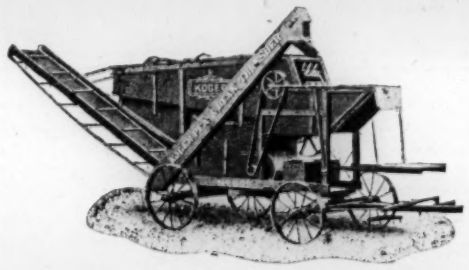

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winter and that now she is getting ten gallons of cream per week, and makes from thirty to thirty-five dollars per month; this amount she uses in runnig the home. Mr. Allen Hall gave a good talk on the boll weevil. Mr. E. T. Attwell spoke, advising the farmers to look around and help to lift the unfortunate fellow. Prof. Geo W. Carver gave an excellent talk on canning. Mr. George R. Bridgeforth, Director of the Agricultural Departmen, gave some advice to the farmers in regards to the saving of money. After this the meeting was closed with benediction by Rev. Jefferson, and the farmers went to their several homes with the feeling that they had been greatly benefited.

HENRY J. RICHARDSON, Jr., MEMBER OF THE HUNTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL GARDEN CLUB MAKES A FINE SHOWING

The fourteen-year-old son of Mr. H. J. Richardson, of Huntsville, Alabama, has set a splendid example for the garden clubs of Madison County, which might be of interest to boys and girls who are engaged in club work throughout the State. His garden contains nine-tenths of an acre, and furnishes him employment before and after school hours. He grows the staple vegetables of this section.

For the month of June his sales were as follows:

Turnip greens	$ .10
Cabbage	13.50
Sweet potato plants	.85
White potatoes	6.05
Beans	2.00
Squash	4.20
Carrots	1.85
Okra	.60
Corn	10.00
Cucumbers	2.55
Total	$ 41.10

Young Richardson was confronted with the problem of how to use the vegetables which he could not sell each day. This problem was solved by the instructor in Home Economics for North Alabama. She took her canner to his garden and showed him how he might save these vegetables, by canning them.

The teachers of the Madison and Jackson County Institute with their conductors visited this garden in a body and witnessed the canning demonstration conducted by the instructor in Home Economics.

The success of this school boy demonstrates what any intelligent, energetic and enterprising boy may do to assist in his upkeep during the time he is acquiring an education, or what he may do toward creating for himself a bank savings account which cannot fail to make him feel somewhat important. We take pleasure in commending this effort of Henry J. Richardson, Jr., to all boys who are engaged in similar work.

SUSAN T. WHITFIELD,
Instructor in Home Economics, State Agricultural and Mechanical College, Normal, Alabama.

Help for the Drouth Stricken Farmer

In traveling around over Macon County I notice quite a large acreage of the crops destroyed by water, is thickly set with crab, Florida carpet, broom edge, marsh, and choice mixed grasses that will make a large

yield of the finest kind of hay if allowed to grow of its own accord.

Where the water stands in puddles or wet weather springs exist, it will help greatly to take a plow and run a deep furrow at several points where needed. It is surprising how quickly a few furrows of this kind will dry the land out. and make the grass grow. In many instances this hay crop will be worth more to the farmer than his cotton or corn crop would have been.

There promises to be an unusually good market this year for choice hays of all kinds. All of these grasses should be cut fresh a few days after the flowering heads appear, cut on bright sunshiny days, cure nicely and wherever possible put in bales.

A number of farmers in a community could handle a baler in a co-operative way, the same as a syrup mill is handled. Baled hay brings a better price and is easier to handle than loose hay.

I trust every farmer having such an opportunity will begin at once to take advantage of it.

GEO. W. CARVER.

LET'S MAKE 1916 THRIFT YEAR

In all our plans for doing better work during this year, let's not forget to include plans for saving, for conserving what we have, as well as making. Many successful men say they have found it easier to produce wealth than to keep it, and we believe this is the general experience. Let us consider some of the factors that will help us not only to produce wealth, but to hold to at least part of what we have produced.

1. Let's make our farms feed us. There's no getting round the fact that we, individually or collectively, can never make any marked agricultural or economic progress until we learn the lesson of living at home. "Food and feed first," should be the slogan on every farm in the South this year.

2. Let's avoid time prices. The iniquitous time prices that force farmers to pay interest at the rate of 50 or even 75 per cent. must be abolished. This is a matter deserving the attention of our legislators, but while they are getting round to it, let's tackle it individually and solve it ourselves in so far as we are personally concerned. The best way we can think of to do this is to do without. This will be hard, we know, but it is better to undergo some hardships for one year rather than go on paying interest rates that will bankrupt and make tenants of farm owners.

3. Let's start a bank account. If you have some spare cash, put it in the bank, and check on it as needed. If you havn't any, but have land, stock and other assets, go to your most progressive local banker and lay the whole matter before him, explaining to him your ambition to buy for cash and at cash prices. He can probably help you, and will if your reputation for paying is good and if he is the progressive business man he should be.

4. Let's save our soils. We must look on our fields with a jealous eye that will not stand for their being washed away. Watch your fields, and do whatever may be necessary to prevent the loss of expensive plant foods.

5. Let's protect our implements and buildings. Millions of dollars worth of farm implements are each year rusting and rotting in our fence corners; thousands of buildings are rotting down when a coat of paint would save them. Paint and sheds will save this tremendous loss—The Progressive Farmer. Farmer.

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RESULTS OF CLUB WORK

Benefits Not Measured by Financial Profit of Members

Two hundred and nine thousand one hundred and seventy-eight boys and girls made application for membership in the boys' and girls' club work, as organized by the department in co-operation with the State colleges of agriculture, during the year 1915, in the Northern and Western States, according to reports received by the Department.

The members participating in this club work are divided into two classes, the profit making, and the nonprofit making, according to the nature and outlined plans of the work undertaken by the members. Sewing clubs, bread clubs, farm and home handicraft clubs are called nonprofit making because the things produced are not sold, but used in the home for the comfort and convenience of the entire family, while the profit-making projects provide for a business marketing or selling with a view to a net profit on investment as a result of the effort of the club member. Canning clubs, poultry clubs, corn clubs, sugar-beet clubs, and others of similar nature are profit-making clubs.

One hundred and twenty-seven thousand eight hundred and eighty-two young people who made application for the work actually undertook and carried on a part or all of it during the season.

The young people engaged in the profit-making work sold their products at a total value of $509,324.24, thus giving an average of $20.96 for each club member engaged in the work. The per capita cost of the club work for the past season in the Northern and Western States was 80 cents on the total enrollment, while the per capita cost of the work based upon members engaged in profit-making enterprises only was $2.02.

The results indicate that the benefits of boys' and girls' club work can not be entirely measured by the results in dollars and cents, or net profit. Account must be taken, for example, of the influence of the club members' work upon parents and neighbors in increased crop production, as well as in the influence upon the club member in not only conserving him for rural life but in making him more efficient and contented.

One definite illustration of how the club activities influenced adults may be shown by the fact that demonstrations in home canning and exhibits of the canning-club work by boys and girls aroused such interest that 26,534 adults wrote to the department and asked for the children's canning instructions for use in their home work.—Southern Cultivator.

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